

8/27/72 Dear Howard, I have sent pp. 3 and 4 to Ned and Sylvia without the note that is attached to the copy to Jerry. There are a number of files in which I will want to keep copies. I expect to send all the pages to Mary, Dick and Paul, in some cases asking the return. There is no joy in the role of the prophet when his prophecy is of doom and it comes to pass. I do not think that the ellipsis will be lost upon you, but if it is, do not hesitate to ask explanations. I have no intention of telling those to whom the last two pages only are going. I am sending nothing to Cyril or Bud etc. Unless you elect it, no comment is necessary or expected. It is now after 2:30 and I have heard from Ian only. I guess the nicest thing I can say about today is that it is the fifth straight of our third air-pollution alert. Where I am unclear or avoid, as with the Memo of ~~Transfer~~ Transfer, it is not by accident. I suppose this is really a bit worse than I expected in two areas: I never thought Cyril stupid but from Graham and AP he is; and I didn't really expect Marshall to take up the cudgels for the executive branch, hooking the Kennedys more firmly. While I was writing it, I was tormented at the thought of sending a copy to Sylvia. Frankly, I don't know which is worse, sending it or not. I suppose what finally decided me is the hope that it may help her realize part of what she has been part and that, being so far out of things, she should stay out, in her own interest especially. Yet anticipating her condition, as the various selections from Malcolm I have sent you should indicate, I hate to. Lil is having a particularly bad day. She had just come into my office to tell me something when she lost her sense of balance and, had it not been for the file cabinets, would have fallen. I have helped her to the couch. She has been ill since I awakened her, and I have not questioned her about it. I suspect there is some connection, but when she has her bad headaches, as distinguished from the daily ones, I have learned that it is best not to question her. She has been abed most of the day. We have had and I expect no lunch, so you know how I feel. I know where the refrig. is. I will not leave her alone. In fact, when she is this way, I dare not. But if she later feels up to it I will take this and the other copies to the Post Office. As you know, the local newspaper wholesaler is in the same block. I will then see if he has a today's Pittsburgh paper and if he doesn't and gets one, ask him to save it. That will be my one extravagance on this. Things are looking better as I write this. I have detected a darkening outside and on looking see what even a city boy may understand when I say "thunderheads". Perhaps the storm will clear the air a bit (literally and figuratively). Anyway, can you now understand better (I know you understood) why I pressed upon you the importance of doing what at any point you sincerely believed to be correct? That way you need have no misgivings and there are no ashes to heap. I would be less than forthright if I did not say that if Graham and AP are a fair sample, in even the writing I anticipate for the scientific press, Cyril may bring new and more trouble to us. I will not be carrying this further with Ned, Gary, Jerry or SM unless they insist or invite. Meanwhile, I am not unaware that Cyril has to date made no use of what I know has been lifted (and that includes what he, personally, copied as well as what he was given) and what he intended, I am sure, spending some time duplicating. You know my belief that this, especially under the circumstances, is indistinguishable from stealing. We will see that over or under his name. I don't expect to hear from Martin and I am inclined not to write him now. I haven't had time to think it through. In spite of all this, don't be discouraged. The more we purge the past and shake out the nuts (Sprague was one of Cyril's experts), the less unpromising the future. At the same time, don't underestimate the nuts or the unthinking. The former are tenacious, both are dedicated, and the compulsion to self-justification is a powerful force. I can't tell you more because I did remain detached. I am intrigued that the ever-friendly National Archives provided the facilities for Graham to interview St. Cyril! Maybe they are for the slaying of dragons? I will welcome what clips you may be able to provide. If I do get the Pgh paper and it has anything worth it, I'll send you copies. Best,

JW
RB
EW
Pit
MF